

540  
E1  
D1 cont.

modular spaced and open chambers (2) on the longitudinal side for inserting respectively, one contact assembly (3), characterized in that the connection strap is a through strap, or a separating strap or a switching strap, in that the contact assemblies (3), each having a separating web (6), are through contacts that can be converted to separation or switching contacts by deforming the separating a web (6) that connects the inside ends of tongues (4) of the contact assembly (3) and in the case of a switching contact also including an insulating separator.

540  
E1  
D2 cont.

12. (Amended) The modular multiple connection strap according to claim 10 characterized in that the chambers (2) are provided in the area of the contact locations (8) of the contact assembly (3) with guide means for inserting an insulation separator.

#### REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing Amendment and remarks, which follow.

Claims 10-13 are before the Examiner. Claims 10 and 12 have been amended to address points raised in the Office Action.

The objections to the claims and figures are noted. The claims have been amended to correct the identified informalities and others, which were found upon review. With regard to the Rule 83(a) objection, the Examiner's attention is directed to Figure 6 and relevant descriptive text. If deemed necessary, the isolating piece can be identified in Figure 6. The relevant supporting text can be found, for example, at lines 13-17 on page 8 and in the paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9 of the specification. No new matter would be introduced thereby should the Examiner request this modification of Figure 6.